

## ILLINOIS ITEMS.

BY S. E. MOISANT.

Auction sales seem to be getting quite popular in Chicago. The Chicago Philatelic Society holds an auction sale once a month and it is needless to say that nearly every auction buyer in the city is present. The seventh sale was held on Saturday evening, Nov. 17. As it consisted of many good stamps there were a large number of bidders present. The next sale will be held about the middle of December and will consist of wholesale lots and single stamps.

Mr. Z. G. Stebbins, Chicago, has gone to New Orleans, Louisiana, to spend the winter and he will be missed, no doubt, at the meetings of the C. P. S., of which society he was an ever-present member.

P. M. Wolsieffer is now hard at work on the collections of Mr. Landis and Jenkins of Cleveland, Ohio, which he will put up at auction the latter part of December.

Recent visitors in Chicago were: Scott F. Redfield, Smethport, Pa.; I. A. Mekeel, St. Louis, Mo.; Albert C. Stewart, Toledo, Ohio; W. Sellschopp, San Francisco, Cal.; L. D. Snow, Sheldon, Ill.; and F. G. Snow, Kankakee, Ill.

F. G. Snow, one of the older dealers in the state expects to remove to Sheldon, Ill., from Kankakee, where he will take charge of a new firm to be called the Sheldon Novelty Works.

C. H. Zeggi, Dewitt, Iowa, and wife were recent visitors in Chicago who made the rounds of the Chicago dealers.

The Chicago Junior published by Rosser W. Cobbe, Chicago has been sold to S. E. Moisant who will consolidate it with his paper the

Stamp Exchange and issue the two as one.

Three new stamp papers are about to make their appearance from the Prairie State--The Illinois Philatelist by R. Green, 204 Dearborn St., Chicago, The Illinois Monthly by the Illinois Stamp Co. Prophetstown, Ill., The Philatelic Globe, Quincy, Ill. All these will appear on January 1, 1901.

## A FEW PICKUPS.

ERA.

Although it seems quite likely that Congress will repeat various sections of the 1898 law requiring the use of stamps, yet it would seem that collectors are only going to see the series called in to give the Bureau a chance to surcharge them for use in Porto Rico and possibly in the Philippines. It is hardly likely that the use of proprietary stamps will be discontinued before July 1, 1901 which would make the law operative for three years and with the exception of a few private die varieties none will ever be scarce.

Under the date of Dec. 13, 1887 the general superintendent of mail (U.S.) gave orders to throw Canadian mail into four divisions, Province of Ontario, Province of Quebec, Eastern Provinces, Northwestern Territories. The last class going by way of St. Paul was a new departure.

The postal savings bank system was added to the postal department of Great Britain in 1861, Canada in 1868, France 1882, Austria 1883, Italy 1876, Belgium 1869, Sweden 1884, Netherlands 1881, Sandwich Islands 1886, and has been a pronounced success in each instance and where enacted has always received the approval of a large number of depositors.